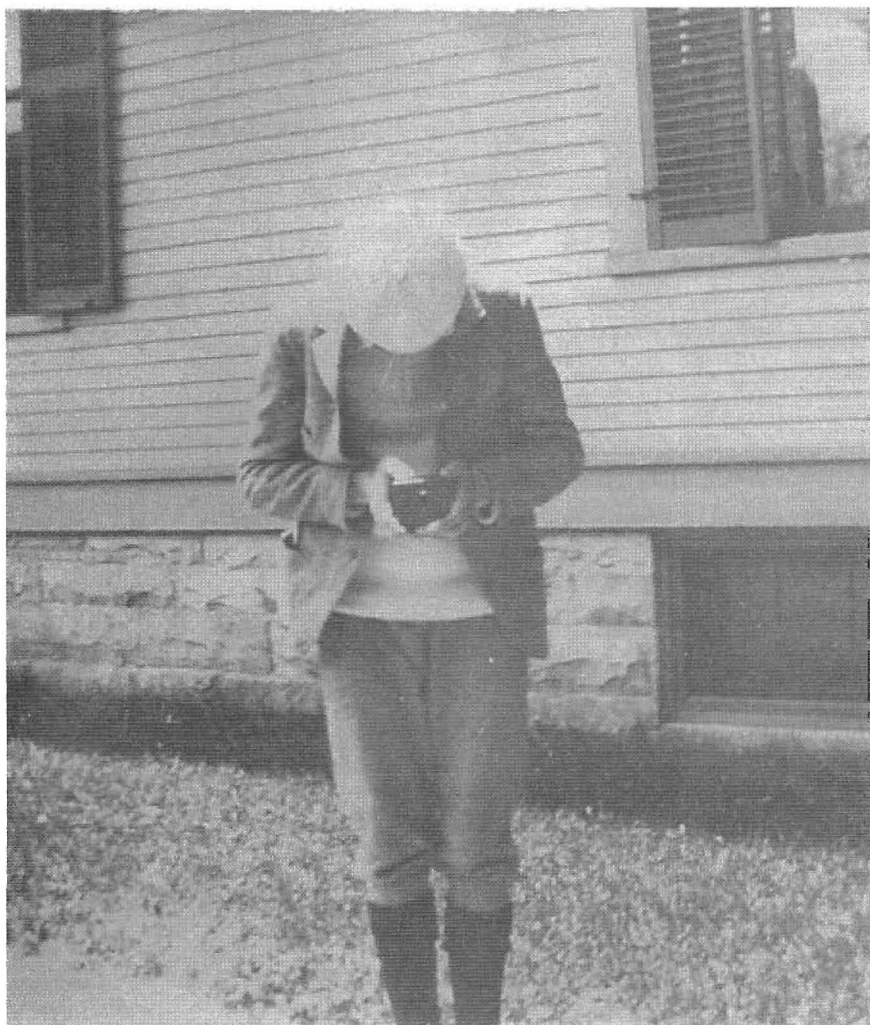


RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Quarterly

VOLUME 44 No. 4

2014

**David Sawyer's World:
1898 Rutland**



DAVID SAWYER

*Who is photographing whom? David Sawyer is
photographing a friend who is photographing David.*

About the Contributors



David Sawyer

- Photographs taken in 1898 by David Sawyer.
- Selection of photographs by Jim Davidson and Jake Sherman of the Publications Committee.
- Scanning and processing of photographs by Clifford Giffin.
- Captions and text by Jim Davidson and Jacob Sherman of the Publications Committee.

Introduction

By 1898 the old Town of Rutland had been divided into four municipalities. The Towns of Proctor and West Rutland had been separated from the old Town of Rutland in 1886. In 1892 the creation of the City of Rutland completed the final division of the old Town of Rutland.

The City of Rutland only began municipal operations in 1893. The photographs in this calendar were taken only five years after the formation of the City of Rutland. They offer one of the best photographic documentaries of Rutland life and its infrastructure at the end of the 19th Century.

These photographs demonstrate the rare skill of the photographer David Sawyer. They also provide a fine look at all seasons of family life in 1898 Rutland.

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David Sawyer's World: 1898 Rutland

The quarterly calendar for 2015 celebrates the photographs of David H. Sawyer, an unusual young Rutlander who left us a pictorial record of life in our area as it was lived over 100 years ago.

David was the younger son of Henry H. Sawyer, who was the proprietor of H. A. Sawyer and Company, a wholesale and retail stationery store located on Merchants Row opposite the railroad depot. His mother was Julia Putnam Sawyer, whose father had served as a Rutland chief of police.

David was born on 6 September 1878 in the family home at 44 Washington Street on the corner of Wales Street, a large frame house with a charming front porch that still stands. He resided there all of his life which ended prematurely at the age of 31 on 18 September 1909, when he died following a two week illness with pneumonia.

When he was a boy of nine, David suffered a severe attack of scarlet fever that left him in delicate health for the remainder of his life. While he did attend local public and private schools, he did not graduate. He was not able thereafter to enter into any active employment. Occasional photographs show him requiring the use of a cane.

Sometime around 1898 David acquired a camera and began taking photographs of family and friends, buildings and streetscapes, parades and baseball games. Mostly he focused on the daily life of the household and often seemed to be recording the passing scene and changing seasons from the verandah of his home. The images he captured reveal an appreciation of life and a keen photographic eye.

In addition to his parents, who predeceased him, David had an older brother, James P. Sawyer, who outlived him by only five years, dying at the age of forty-one. He also had a sister, Mary L. Sawyer, who married H. W. Hudson and relocated to Hoosick Falls, New York. The Sawyer household also included two adult maids.

This calendar features the photographs taken by David during the single year of 1898. Rutlanders of today owe a debt of gratitude this young man who used his camera to capture the life and times of a pivotal era in the history of the city.



Sleigh and trolley navigate snow-covered Merchants Row.

JANUARY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

INCLUDE RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS



Sled tracks and footprints bear testimony to winter fun.

FEBRUARY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
				Lincoln's Birthday		Valentine's Day
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	President's Day		Ash Wednesday			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

CHECK NEXT MAILING LABEL FOR DUES INFORMATION



The chilly winds of March do not keep this young lady from her jumprope.

MARCH 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Daylight Savings Begins	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Palm Sunday	30	31				

VISIT THE SOCIETY WEB SITE AT RUTLANDHISTORY.COM



Baseball game at the Rutland Fairgrounds.

APRIL 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Good Friday	11 Passover
12 Easter	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

“HISTORICALLY SPEAKING” WED - 4PM; THUR - 1:30PM; FRI – 7:30PM



Wild West show parades down Merchants Row. Rutland roundhouse in the background.

MAY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Mother's Day						Armed Force's Day
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	Memorial Day					

PAST VIDEO PROGRAMS CAN BE VIEWED ON SOCIETY WEB SITE



"Our gang" on berry picking expedition.

JUNE 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

THERE ARE 600 RUTLAND TIDBITS ON THE SOCIETY WEB SITE

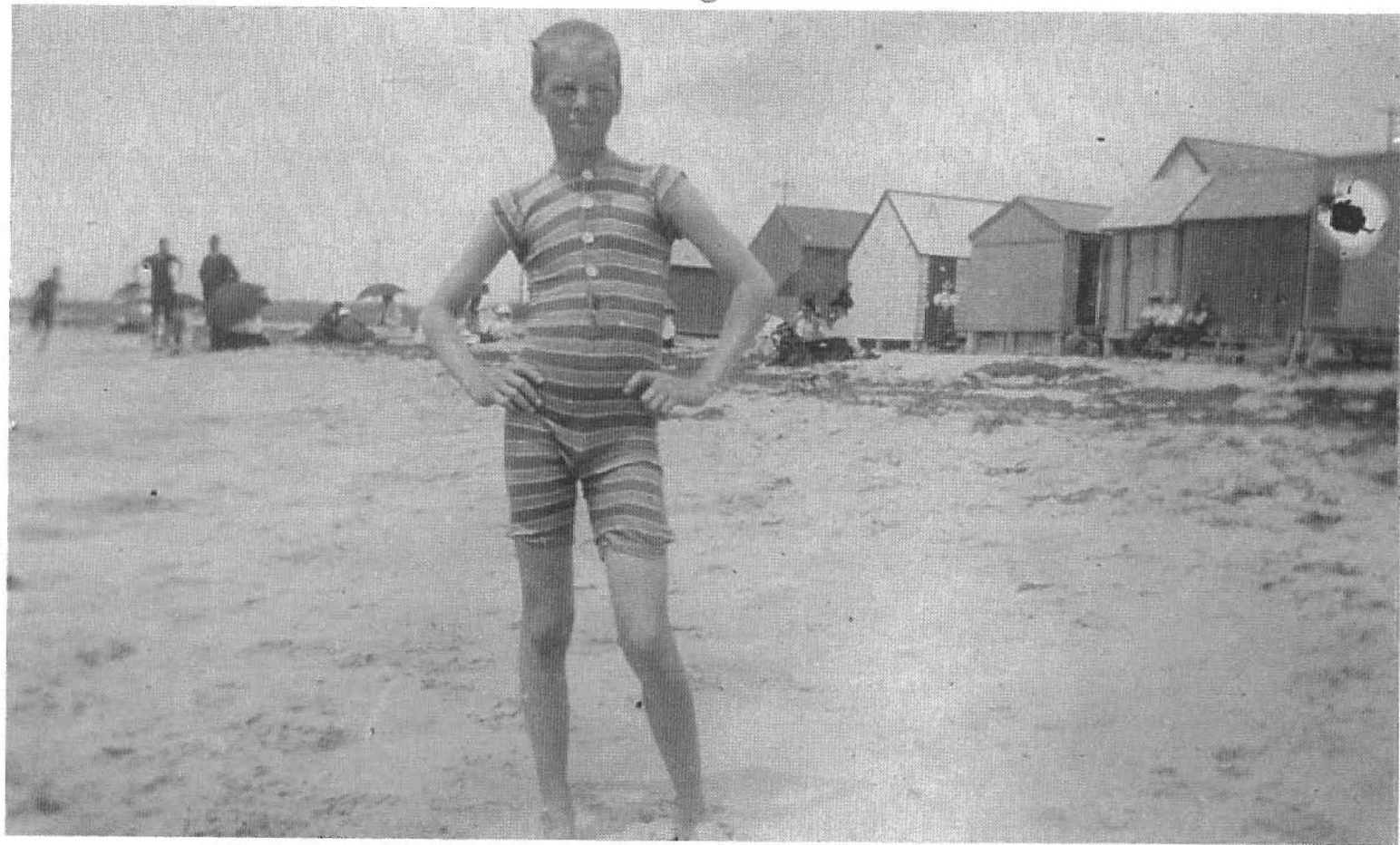


Young man sets off on rowboat on summer day.

JULY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	Independence Day Observed	Independence Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NO CABLE? VIEW PEGTV PROGRAMS ON YOUR COMPUTER

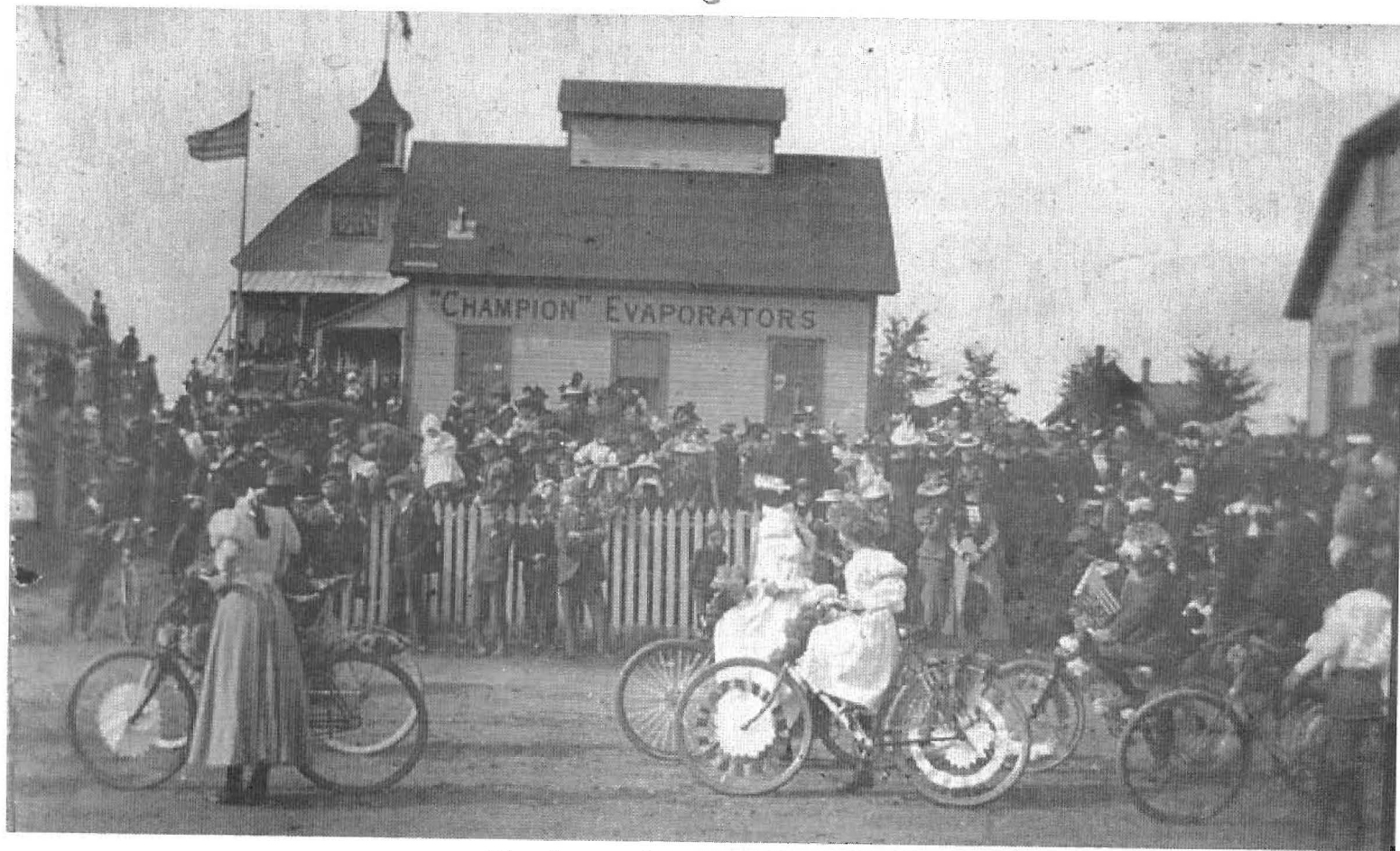


Excursion to the ocean beach features the latest fashion in swimwear.

AUGUST 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Battle of Bennington Day						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

VISIT THE FARM MUSEUM AT THE RUTLAND FAIR

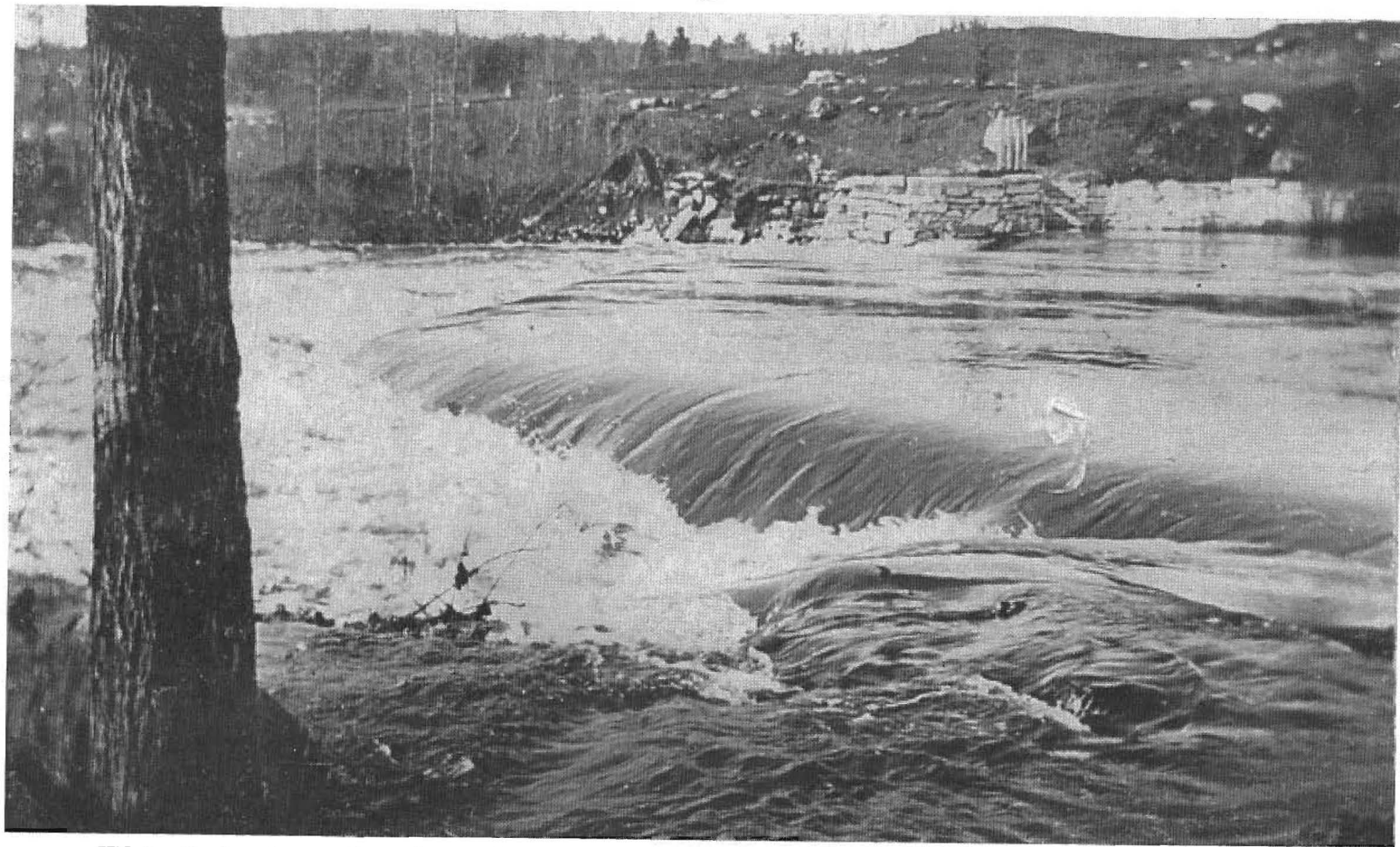


Bicycle parade at the Rutland Fair.

SEPTEMBER 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Rosh Hashanah	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Yom Kippur	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO DONATE FOR THE OCTOBER SALE?



While the landscape has changed, the swirling waters of the Otter Creek at the Ripley Dam remain.

OCTOBER 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween

OCTOBER IS SOCIETY ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MONTH



The ladies fall finery defies the cold of November while the little girl poses for the camera.

NOVEMBER 2015

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Daylight Savings Ends						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			Veteran's Day			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
				Thanksgiving Day		
29	30					

CAN YOU MAKE AN ADDITIONAL DONATION TO THE SOCIETY?



Snow was not removed from the streets of 1898 as packed snow was necessary for sleighing.

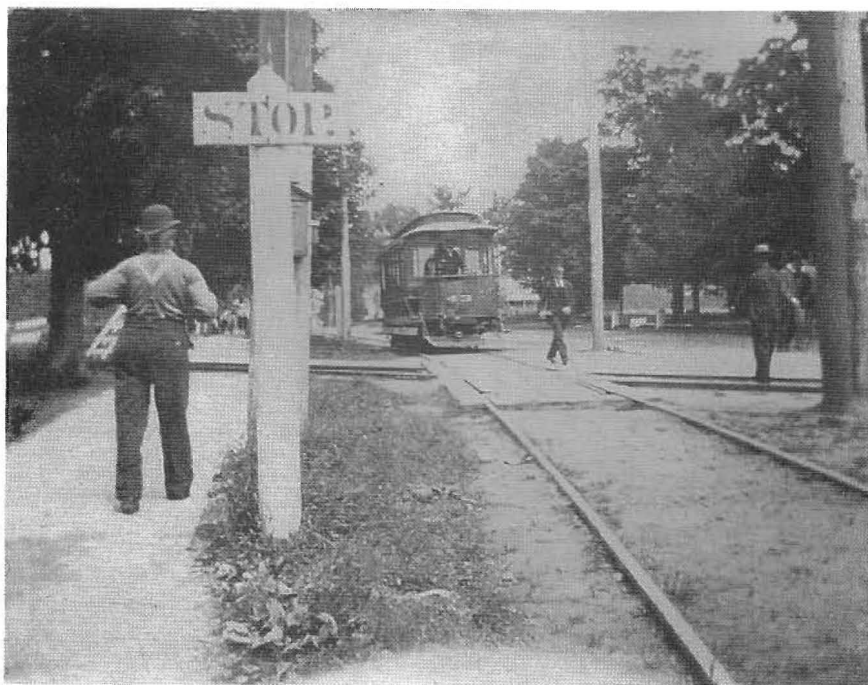
DECEMBER 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Pearl Harbor Day Hanukkah	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Christmas Day	

THE SOCIETY HAS PUBLICATIONS & GIFT MEMBERSHIPS FOR SALE



Two maids of the Sawyer household.



Waiting at the trolley stop.